

Exercise Sheet 1 (due date for homework exercises 1.1 to 1.3: Nov. 01)

Exercise 1.1 (Homework)

Let $A \in \mathbb{S}_{++}^n$ and $B \in \mathbb{S}^n$.

1. Show that for all matrices U of appropriate size, $A \preceq B \implies U^T A U \preceq U^T B U$.
2. Show that $A \preceq \mathbf{I}_n \iff A^{-1} \succeq \mathbf{I}_n$. (Hint: Use the matrix $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$)
3. Show that $A \preceq B$ implies that B is invertible, and $A^{-1} \succeq B^{-1}$.

We define the ellipsoid $\mathcal{E}_A := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{x}^T A^{-1} \mathbf{x} \leq 1\}$.

4. Let now B be positive definite. Conclude that $A \preceq B \iff \mathcal{E}_A \subseteq \mathcal{E}_B$.

Exercise 1.2 (Homework)

1. Let $A_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $A_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ invertible. We define

$$S_1 := \{A_1 \mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \geq 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad S_2 := \{\mathbf{x} : A_2 \mathbf{x} \geq 0\}.$$

Determine the dual cones of S_1 and S_2 and give it in the form

$$\{\mathbf{y} : B \mathbf{y} \geq 0\}.$$

for some suitable B .

2. Consider $K := \{\mathbf{x} : x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n \geq 0\}$. Determine the dual cone of K .

Exercise 1.3 (Homework)

Let $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with nonempty interior. Moreover, let $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be convex, and $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be concave, with $\mathbf{dom} f = \mathbf{dom} g = C$. Suppose that the inequality $g(\mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{x})$ holds everywhere on C . Show that we can fit an affine function between f and g , i.e., there exists an affine function h such that

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in C, \quad g(\mathbf{x}) \leq h(\mathbf{x}) \leq f(\mathbf{x}).$$

Exercise 1.4

We define the *support function* of a set $C \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$, $C \neq \emptyset$, as

$$S_C(\mathbf{x}) = \sup\{\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{y} \in C\},$$

with $\mathbf{dom} S_C = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sup_{\mathbf{y} \in C} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{y} < \infty\}$.

1. Show that S_C is a convex function
2. Show that $S_C = S_{\mathbf{conv} C}$
3. Show that $S_{A+B} = S_A + S_B$
4. Show that $S_{A \cup B} = \max\{S_A, S_B\}$
5. Let B be closed and convex. Show that $A \subseteq B \iff \forall \mathbf{x} : S_A(\mathbf{x}) \leq S_B(\mathbf{x})$